

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Amendments to the claims are not submitted with this response. Accordingly, the following listing of claims is presented without further amendment from the amendments submitted with Applicants' response of July 17, 2006. Please replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this matter with the following listing of claims showing the current status of claims.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) A process for repetitively producing and removing coke from a delayed coker vessel, wherein the coker vessel has a bottom portion defining an aperture through which coke is released, comprising:
 - (a) sealing an aperture closure housing to the bottom portion of the coker vessel;
 - (b) moving a closure member within the closure housing to close the aperture;
 - (c) feeding a heavy hydrocarbon feed into the coker vessel through a feed line attached to the coker vessel at a side entry position above the bottom of the coker vessel;
 - (d) coking the heavy hydrocarbon in the coker vessel;
 - (e) moving the closure member within the closure housing to open the aperture to allow coke removal from the coker vessel; and

- (f) releasing coke through the aperture, and;
- (g) repeating steps b through f successively.

3. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 2 wherein step (a) further comprises sealing a transition spool piece to the coker vessel bottom and attaching the feed line to the spool piece at a side entry position.

4 – 5 (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 2 wherein step (a) further comprises sealing a coke chute to the bottom portion of the aperture closure housing.

7 – 9 (Canceled)

10 – 18 (Canceled)

19. (Withdrawn) A coker vessel comprising:

- (a) a vessel having a flanged side aperture and a flanged bottom aperture;
- (b) a flanged feed pipe fitted to said flanged side aperture;
- (c) an aperture closure unit fitted and sealed to said bottom aperture;
- (d) a closure member moveable within said closure unit;

- (e) A coke chute sealed to the bottom portion of the closure unit for directing coke from the vessel to a receiving area.
- 20. (Withdrawn) The coker vessel of Claim 19 wherein the closure member comprises a valve.
- 21. (Withdrawn) The coker vessel of Claim 20 wherein the valve is a gate valve, a ball valve, a slide valve, a knife valve or a wedge plug valve.
- 22. (Withdrawn) The coker vessel of Claim 20 wherein the valve further comprises a power actuated valve.
- 23. (Withdrawn) The coker vessel of Claim 20 wherein the bottom aperture is from 30 to 90 inches.